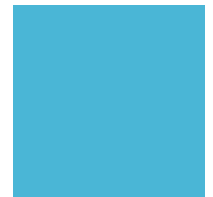




## SPACE WEATHER



Space Weather describes the conditions in space that affect Earth and its technological systems. Space Weather is a consequence of the behavior of the Sun, the nature of Earth's magnetic field and atmosphere, and our location in the solar system. The active elements of space weather are particles, electromagnetic energy, and magnetic field, rather than the more commonly known weather contributors of water, temperature, and air.

### HAS IT HAPPENED LOCALLY?

There have been no notable occurrences of Space Weather significantly impacting Howard County.

### WHAT IS THE ONGOING RISK?

There is an expected **1-30% chance** of a Space Weather hazard in Howard County. In the most likely Space Weather scenario, the **Total Impact is considered Limited**. In the worst-case scenario, the **Total Impact is considered Limited-Significant**.

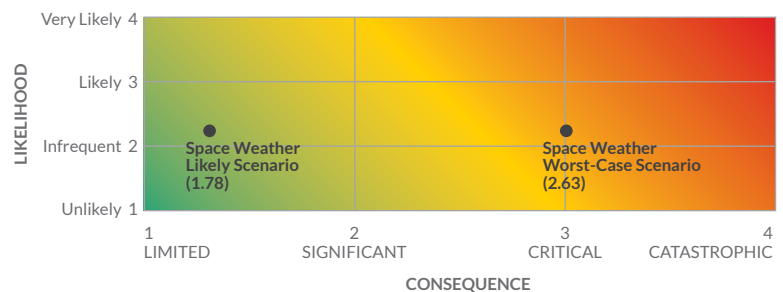
### DID YOU KNOW?

- A solar storm in 1859, known as the "Carrington Event," was one of the strongest coronal mass ejections in recorded history. Telegraph systems failed across Europe and North America.
- In 1972, a solar storm knocked out long-distance phone communications across the United States.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- Howard County Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment [readyhoco.com/hazards](http://readyhoco.com/hazards)
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration [swpc.noaa.gov](http://swpc.noaa.gov)
- Ready.gov [ready.gov/space-weather](http://ready.gov/space-weather)

### RISK MATRIX



### LOCAL RISK OVERVIEW

Future Likelihood	Infrequent-Likely 1-30% chance of annual occurrence	
Impact	MOST-LIKELY	WORST-CASE
	Limited	Critical-Catastrophic
Risk Score	1.78	2.63
Risk Ranking (High to Low)	Ranked #10 of 10 natural hazards.	

### SPACE WEATHER IMPACT

Where no Worst-Case bar is visible, Worst-Case impact is equivalent to Likely Impact

